

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 EB-08 OMB-01 TRSY-02 AID-05 /070 W

-----021233Z 033421 /10

R 011401Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5643

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

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CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECON, EMIN, EWWT, SOPN, SF, MZ

SUBJECT: MOZAMBIQUE PRESS ITEMS ON MAPUTO AND SOUTH AFRICAN PORTS

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. MAPUTO NEWSPAPER NOTICIAS REGULARLY CONTAINS COLUMN ENTITLED "ECONOMIC POINTS, IN WHICH VARIOUS ECONOMIC EVENTS OR STATISTICS ARE PUBLISHED. ITEMS ARE APPARENTLY GLEANED FROM WIRE SERVICE REPORTS, WESTERN MAGAZINES, OR OTHER PUBLICATIONS.

2. APRIL 1 COLUMN HAD THREE ARTICLES OF INTEREST CONCERNING SOUTH AFRICAN PORTS AND THE USE OF THE PORT OF MAPUTO. NO PUBLICATION WAS INDICATED AS A SOURCE OF THE REPORTS. FIRST ITEM SAID: QUOTE ACCORDING TO AN AMERICAN SOURCE, MAPUTO HANDLES ABOUT 11 MILLION TONS OF SOUTH AFRICAN TRANSIT TRAFFIC ANNUALLY, COMPARED TO 35 MILLION TONS IN DURBAN, 10 MILLION TONS IN CAPE TOWN, AND 3 MILLION TONS IN EAST LONDON. UNQUOTE. SECOND ITEM SAID: QUOTE ACCORDING TO AN AMERICAN SOURCE, SOUTH AFRICAN RAILWAYS AND THE MOZAMBIQUE PORT AND RAIL AUTHORITY SIGNED AN AGREEMENT, ACCORDING TO WHICH, UNTIL THERE IS AN IMPROVEMENT IN MAPUTO PORT CONDITIONS, ABOUT 400,000 TONS OF CHROME ORE WILL BE DIVERTED TO THE PORT OF DURBAN UNQUOTE. THIRD ITEM STATED: QUOTE ACCORDING TO THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE SOUTH

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TONS IN EAST LONDON. UNQUOTE. SECOND ITEM SAID: QUOTE ACCORDING TO AN AMERICAN SOURCE, SOUTH AFRICAN RAILWAYS AND THE MOZAMBIQUE PORT AND RAIL AUTHORITY SIGNED AN AGREEMENT, ACCORDING TO WHICH, UNTIL THERE IS AN IMPROVEMENT IN MAPUTO PORT CONDITIONS, ABOUT 400,000 TONS OF CHROME ORE WILL BE DIVERTED TO THE PORT OF DURBAN UNQUOTE. THIRD ITEM STATED: QUOTE ACCORDING TO THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE SOUTH

AFRICAN RAILWAYS AND HARBORS, EXPORTS OF CHROM WILL CONTINUE TO BE MADE THROUGH THE PORT OF MAPUTO. ABOUT 500,000 TONS ARE CHANNELLED TO THIS PORT, AND ABOUT 400,000 TONS THROUGH DURBAN. HOWEVER, BY ABOUT 1979, THE PORT OF RICHARDS BAY WILL BE ABLE TO REPLACE THE PORT OF MAPUTO FOR THESE EXPORTS, THE DIRECTOR GENERAL STATED UNQUOTE.

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3. WHILE THE ARTICLES THEMSELVES SEEM TO BE ACCURATE, AND REFLECT RECENT REPORTING BY SOUTH AFRICAN POSTS AND EMBASSY MAPUTO, EMBASSY IS MILDLY SURPRISED THAT MOZAMBIQUE'S GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED PRESS WOULD PRINT ARTICLES WITHOUT COMMENT CONCERNING SOUTH AFRICAN INTENTIONS TOWARD THE USE OF THE PORT OF MAPUTO, PROBLEMS IN THE PORT, AND EVENTUAL SUBSTITUTION OF MAPUTO BY RICHARD'S BAY.
DE PREE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 01-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Reason:
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Format: TEL
From: MAPUTO
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